

Message Text

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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 /006 W
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R 191915Z AUG 76
FM AMCONSUL MONTERREY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2737
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MONTERREY 0755

H PASS: HONORABLE LAWTON CHILDS, UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS, MX (BROWN, ROBERT)

SUBJ: PROPERTY CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

REF: SENATOR CHILDS' COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM DATED AUGUST 15

1. CESSNA AURCRAFT N-50288 SEIZED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES ON FEBRUARY 16, 1976. AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY BEING DETAINED AS CONTRABAND BY MEXICAN CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, AS PILOT ENTERED MEXICO WITHOUT CUSTOMS CLEARANCE OR TEMPORARY IMPORT PERMIT FOR AIRCRAFT. SINCE SEIZURE OF AIRCRAFT, WE HAVE FOLLOWED SITUATION CLOSELY AND HAVE BEEN IN FREQUENT CONTACT WITH MR. BROWN AND HIS ATTORNEYS.
2. MR. BROWN WAS INFORMED IN FEBRUARY OF BILATERAL CONVENTION OF 1937 BETWEEN MEXICO AND U.S. UNDER WHICH STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT ARE RETURNED TO OWNER IN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. MR. BROWN HAS NOT YET ATTEMPTED RECOVER AIRCRAFT THROUGH CONVENTION, BUT HIRED ATTORNEYS VICTOR MANUEL TREVINO AND LUIS GARZA-VALDEZ OF PIEDRAS NEGRAS, COAHUILA, TO REPRESENT HIM. TO DATE, ATTORNEYS HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN ATTEMPTS TO HAVE PLANE RELEASED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS.
3. ON AUGUST 5, MR. BROWN INFORMED US THAT HE WAS UNSATISFIED WITH ATTORNEYS AND REQUESTED THAT CONGEN CONTACT MEXICAN CUSTOMS OFFICIALS DIRECTLY TO DETERMINE STATUS OF AIRCRAFT. AT OUR UNCLASSIFIED

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REQUEST, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ARE NOW INVESTIGATING SITUATION AND

HAVE PROMISED TO INFORM US SOON WHETHER PLANE CAN BE RELEASED TO MR. BROWN. IF NOT, WE PLAN TO AGAIN SUGGEST TO MR. BROWN THAT HE BEGIN PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO RECOVER AIRCRAFT THROUGH BILATERAL CONVENTION.

4. LATEST INFORMATION IN OUR FILES INDICATES THAT THE AIRCRAFT IS STILL AT THE LANDING SITE, A RANCH OUTSIDE OF OCAMPO, COAHUILA. CONSULAR OFFICER WHO VISITED THE AIRCRAFT IN FEBRUARY NOTED THAT VISIBLE DAMAGE TO THE AIRCRAFT CONSISTED OF A DAMAGED NOSE WHEEL, A BENT PROP, AND BENT NOSE COWLING. MR. BROWN HAS HAD MECHANIC VISIT AIRCRAFT AND CAN GIVE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON PLANE'S CONDITION.
LAMBERT

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